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ANNUAL REPORT

—OF THE—

SELECTMEN,

Board of Education,

—AND—

SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

—OF THE TOWN OF—

TILTON,

—FOR THE—

Year Ending March 1, 1878.

GEO. W. BAKER, POWER JOB PRINTER, TILTON, N. H.

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1878

REPORT.

The selectmen charge themselves with cash received, as follows:

To cash in the treasury, March 1, 1878,	$1,578 78
Received of Belknap County,	270 82
" C. B. Garmon, for plank,	2 00
from Savings bank tax,	260 17
" Railroad tax,	290 76
" Literary fund,	73 53
of Caroline Pearsons, for killing of sheep by dog,	34 00
" S. J. Tilton, collector for 1874,	60 00
for dog licenses,	17 00
of Edwin Moorhouse, collector for 1875,	162 70
from town of Northfield, for tramps,	50
of Nelson A. Philbrook, for plank,	1 00
" Ed. Moorhouse, collector for 1875,	134 04
To amount of taxes committed to collector for 1877,	7,161 81
Received of A. Elliott, collector for 1876,	2,108 41
" " " interest,	11 03
To cash borrowed,	4,094 90
	$16, 961 45

Which is accounted for as follows:

Paid Outstanding Bills.

Paid auditors' bill,	$ 3 00
C. B. Garmon, services as selectman for 1876,	8 00
" " transient poor,	10 50
" " selectmen's board, 1876,	7 00
" " for C. T. French,	75
John P. Lane, work on road,	9 60
A. J. Clark, " "	28 11
D. S. Clay, " "	7 00
W. J. Durgin, " "	12 14
A. G. Dearborn, work on bridge,	1 50
Bela S. Keniston, work on road,	16 65
George Holmes, " "	6 50
C. C. Taylor, " "	9 70
S. Nay, " "	2 00
G. S. Philbrick, " "	3 75
A. H. Jones's services as selectman,	7 00
A. Elliott, collector for 1878,	105 62
A. J. Garmon, aid to G. Hawley,	17 00
Philbrick & Hill, wood,	4 30
G. W. Baker, printing reports,	20 00
H. Q. Dalton, services as selectman, 1876,	9 00
J. P. Dearborn, school committee,	35 00
Town of Sanbornton, A. Knowlton's bond,	74 50
C. N. Huckins, work on road,	4 40
J. P. Osborne, for G. Hawley,	15 00
D. L. Clifford, constable,	2 00
Town of Franklin, for Conant family,	15 00
B. P. Simonds, for wood,	2 25
	$437 27

Notes and Interest.

Paid notes,	$4,912 15
Interest on bond,	960 00
	$5,772 15

Current Expenses.

Paid C. C. Rogers,	$ 45 00
S. Dixon,	2 00
S. H. Williams, for check-lists,	1 15
County tax,	1,369 76
M. Sargent, damage to horse,	25 00
G. H. Moulton, tax refunded,	9 15
O. S. Reed,	30
W. P. Lang, constable,	12 50
State tax,	1,092 00
E. L. Sanborn, whitewashing police station,	1 00
Witness fees and costs, in Clark suit,	58 69
E. L. Sanborn, guide-board,	1 25
W. H. Mudgett, watering-trough,	3 00
Philbrick & Hill, spikes,	84
S. H. Williams, town clerk,	55 00
G. W. Baker, printing,	4 05
B. W. Sanborn, books and paper,	24 05
W. P. & J. Hill, rent for office,	85 00
John Curry, rent for land for lobby,	10 00
J. F. Eastman, constable,	8 00
" clothing for lobby,	2 25
J. P. Dearborn, for wood,	8 00
C. B. Garmon, selectmen's board,	12 75
E. L. Sanborn, " "	7 75
" services as selectman,	61 75
" overseer or poor,	4 75
" horse and carriage out of town,	2 75

Paid H. Q. Dalton,	services as selectman,	60 93
"	overseer of poor,	7 65
"	horse and carriage out of town,	5 00
"	cash paid out,	5 45
J. P. Dearborn,	services as selectman,	112 00
"	overseer of poor,	14 00
"	horse and carriage out of town,	12 40
"	cash paid out, and postage,	14 65
"	treasurer,	40 00
		$3,179 82

For Support of Poor.

Paid H. K. Thompson,	coffin for C. Liberty,	$ 8 50
George J. Johnson,	for Conant boy,	55 00
A. Simpson,	for G. Hawley,	8 00
Philbrick & Hill,	for M. J. Barney,	5 00
J. P. Osborne,	for C. Liberty,	7 00
Peter Copp,	for "	2 00
T. D. Foss,	for transient poor,	2 00
State Reform School,	for Frank A. Reed,	65 07
"	" Fred Shaw,	47 43
"	" Cassius Rowell,	91 00
"	" Solon McKenney,	57 50
J. F. Eastman,	for transient poor,	23 50
E. L. Sanborn,	" "	3 00
Philbrick & Hill,	for C. Liberty,	6 62
A. W. Abbott,	for Conant boy,	4 00
E. L. Sanborn,	for Semmoc family,	1 00
M. W. Bennett,	for transient poor,	13 25
H. Q. Dalton,	" "	15 50
C. R. Gould,	for Almira Jones,	15 00

Paid J. F. Eastman, for tramps,	12 25
Belknap County, for Ezekiel Adams and wife,	34 00
H. Q. Dalton, clothing for Conant boy,	6 95
Town of Franklin, for Conant family,	5 00
E. L. Sanborn, for transient poor,	7 75
George J. Johnson, for Conant boy,	10 00
	$508 32

Roads and Bridges.

Paid Byron W. Brown, for lumber,	$ 66 14
Adeline Barber, land damage,	250 00
E. Davis, " "	75 00
S. Philbrick, " "	6 00
J. H. Tilton, " "	25 00
E. C. Knowlton, " "	5 00
R. Reed, work on road,	3 50
C. H. Brown, work on road,	1 88
Sarah Pearsons, land damage,	25 00
B. T. Brown, for lumber,	30 42
Chellis Sargent, land damage,	245 00
E. L. Sanborn, for sewer,	15 75
J. H. Curtice, work on road,	4 13
J. P. Dearborn, for lumber,	6 75
B. P. Simonds, " "	14 17
	$773 74

Paid for Sheep Killed by Dogs.

D. S. Clay,	$12 00
J. F. Bamford,	3 00
John P. Lane,	8 00

Joshua March,	36 00
Albert J. Clark.	7 00
	$66 00

Paid the Several School Districts.

C. R. Gould, Union District,	$471 19
D. C. Wyatt, District No. 4,	233 10
A. M. Foss, " " 16,	134 14
J. S. Morrison, " " 1,	105 82
W. H. H. Rollins, District No. 18,	88 32
J. W. Johnson, " " 7,	94 91
C. H. Marden, " " 5,	52 30
T. W. Taylor, " " 2, Sanbornton,	1 68
	$1,181 46

Paid the Several Religious Societies.

J. F. Taylor, Episcopal,	$21 70
D. S. Clay, First Congregational,	16 74
T. W. Long, First Methodist,	22 01
W. H. Clark, Christian Baptist,	1 25
H. Q. Dalton, Free Baptist,	15 19
" " Laconia Methodist,	4 34
" " Second Methodist,	6 51
E. L. Sanborn, First Baptist,	155
Horace Moulton, Second Congregational,	7 37
	$96 64

Town Debts.

Notes and interest to March 1, 1878,	$12,795 36
Bonds and interest to March 1, 1878,	16,240 00
	$29,035 36

Assets.

Railroad stock, 21 shares,		$ 210 00
Uncollected taxes, 1874,		259 32
" " 1877,		2,010 00
Due from county,		60 00
Cash in treasury,		2,834 45
		$5,373 77
Net indebtedness,	$23,661 59	
School and parsonage fund, note,		$3,166 35

Recapitulation.

To cash and tax-list,	$12,866 55
borrowed,	4,094 90
	$16,961 45

Which is accounted for as follows:

Paid outstanding bills,	$437 27
On notes,	4,912 15
Interest on bonds,	960 00
Damage to sheep by dogs,	66 00

Pald Several school districts,	1,181 46
Several religious societies,	96 64
Roads and bridges,	774 74
Support of poor,	508 32
Current expenses,	3,179 82
Bounty,	1 60
By taxes uncollected,	2,010 00
Cash in treasury,	2,834 45
	$16,961 45

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH P. DEARBORN,
HENRY Q. DALTON,
E. L. SANBORN,
Selectmen of Tilton.

Having examined the foregoing accounts, we find them properly vouched and correctly cast.

B. T. BROWN,
A. B. WYATT,
C. B. GARMON,
Auditors.

REPORT

of the

Superintending School Committee.

In accordance with a vote of the town "To re-number the school districts," the selectmen have made the following changes:

No. 7 will hereafter be known as No. 2; No. 16 as No. 3; No. 18 as No. 5; Nos. 1 and 4 to remain as they have been.

I have used these numbers in my report, and the prudential committees have been instructed by the selectmen to issue their warrants for the annual school meetings, in accordance therewith.

At my request, the selectmen have procured a blank-book, in which to record the official acts of the school committee, together with their reports, and such other matters pertaining to the schools as they may from time to time determine.

District No. 1.

Summer term of 10 weeks, taught by M. Adelaide Pearl. This was her first term, and as such was creditable to her.

Winter term of 10 weeks, taught by Eva R. Spofford. The order in the school was good, and the progress very marked, in the opinion of your committee.

District No. 2.

Summer and winter terms of 8 weeks each, taught by Maria L. Lane. This was the best school in town.

District No. 3.

Summer term of 8 weeks, taught by Lizzie A. Nelson. Winter term of 11 1-2 weeks, taught by M. Adelaide Pearl. These teachers labored hard to promote the interests of the school, but their efforts were in a measure rendered abortive by the ill-advised opposition of some of the patrons.

District No. 4.

In this district there were 32 weeks of schooling, taught by Luthera W. Sanborn. The Spring and Fall terms were excellent in point of order and improvement, though the school was partially broken up by sickness among the scholars. A little more attention to order the third term would have been beneficial.

District No. 5.

Summer term of 6 weeks, taught by Addie L. Wells. Miss Wells entered upon her duties with a conscientious desire to discharge them faithfully. At my first visit the scholars were restless and noisy, and seemed to care little for their books. At my second visit they were quiet, orderly, and studious. Progress good.

Winter term of 12 weeks, taught by Wm. H. H. Rollins. Mr. Rollins has been untiring in his efforts to promote the good of the school, and his labors have been crowned with marked success.

It is the opinion of your committee that the State legislature ought to pass a law requiring every one intending to teach in the common schools to fit themselves for the position by a thorough training at the Normal school.

There is not one school-house in town that has a globe, chart, dictionary, or map, worthy of the name, and not one that is properly supplied with a black-board. Some of them

have a sufficient number of feet, but placed where it is practically useless. The school furniture in the five schoolhouses in town would not bring as much at public auction as the ordinary furniture in a farmer's kitchen.

The several districts ought to place in their school-houses a copy of Webster's or Worcester's Unabridged Dictionary, a globe, and at least two maps,—one of the State of New Hampshire, and another of the United States. And it seems as though in a town possessing the wealth and intelligence of Tilton, some district would be found ready to remodel their school-house entirely, and put in it all the first-class modern improvements.

There are no records in the town clerk's office, nor in the hands of my immediate predecessor, of what has been done by former superintendents, in their official capacity, with regard to the text-books, *or anything else.*

To ascertain what books were in actual daily use in the schools, I requested each teacher to send me a list. Putting them together, I find we have five different series of readers, four different series of spellers, four different series of arithmetics, five different series of geographies, four different series of grammars, while in history, algebra, book-keeping, etc., hardly two scholars have the same text-book by the same author. How such a heterogeneous mass of books got into our schools it is now impossible to determine. Certainly most of them are there unlawfully, and ought to be removed.

Five years ago, Dr. Mason, (the then superintendent,) introduced the Franklin Readers. Since then there have been no changes made by the committee, and yet there are four other series of readers in actual use in the schools in town.

Taking these facts, then, without stopping to ascertain by whose fault or neglect, let us look at some of the results.

The average attendance of scholars during the year, in the five schools in town, has been *149-11*, while the average number of daily classes which each teacher has been required to hear has been *22*, with the best classification that could be made.

Do you wonder that the teachers did not have more time to show your children how to perform their examples? The wonder is how they ever got through at all. Certainly, justice to any one branch must have been at the expense of some other. Certainly, all have been hurried and more or less superficial. When I have reported progress in the schools, it has been with these hindrances in mind. I have made no changes during the year, but have tried to find out what the schools demand, and, as a result of my observations, have caused the selectmen to put an article in their warrant, bringing this matter before the town, hoping for a favorable response.

I believe a radical change in our text-books imperatively demanded, to place our schools on an equal footing with those in the towns around us. To that end, a vote of the town is necessary. If you refuse it, it will take seven years to make the changes demanded *now*, provided the superintendents follow a given line of improvement, using all the authority the law allows them, which, (with our present system of electing them yearly,) is very doubtful. But supposing they do, it will be seven years before the schools can be properly classified to derive the benefit which can be, and should be, derived from the amount of money expended. In that time, most of the scholars now in school will have entered higher institutions of learning or gone out into the active scenes of life, and the benefits that ought to accrue to them from the common school will be lost to them forever.

In looking over the State superintendent's report, I find the complaint almost universal throughout the State of a want of sympathy between parents and teachers. Our town presents no exception to the rule. Parents who are driven to their wits end every day to govern and control two or three children at home, expect a teacher to manage all the children in the district wtih strict impartiality, without ever having recourse to the rod, or any other means of punishment but smiles and love and "moral suasion," forgetting that teachers are human as well as themselves, and children in the school-room are not much better than they are out of it.

It has come within the observation of your committee where parents sided with their children against the teacher for trying to maintain her legitimate authority by strictly legitimate means, when they knew the children were setting that authority at naught every day, to the great detriment of the school.

Quite a number of children have been taken out of school, during the past year, on various pretexts, when, if the parents had impartially investigated the matter, and weighed all the facts in the case, it seems to me they must have concluded it were a thousand times better to have them remain. Give your children to understand the teacher's authority in the school-room is to be maintained and aided by your own, and overt matters of discipline are to be submitted to the committee, and in ninety-nine cases out of one hundred you will be satisfied with the order, government, and progress of your school.

Give the teacher your confidence, and not your criticism. Visit her in the school-room, and invite her to your homes. Let her see that you sympathize with her in her labors, and you will be amply repaid in the extra efforts she will put forth to merit your approbation and esteem.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

Number of District.	Total am't of Money.	Whole No. Scholars Summer Term.	Whole No. Scholars Winter Term.	Average Attendance Summer Term.	Average Attendance Winter Term.	Length of School in w'ks Sum'er Term.	Length of School in w'ks Winter Term.	Wages per month, including board, Summer Term.	Wages per month, including board, Winter Term.	No. Visits by Superintendent.	No. Visits by Prudential Committee.	No. of Visits by Citizens.
1	$105.82	12	12	10	10	10	10	$20.00	$20.00	4		
2	94.91	15	13	12	12	8	8	24.00	24.00	2		12
3	134.14	30	27	26	18	8	11 1-2	26.40	29.00	7		6
4	233.10	19	20	15	14 1-2	10	23	28.00	26.00	5		24
5	83.10	18	22	15 1-2	17	6	12	20.00	28.00	3	10	12

There have been 493 instances of tardiness, 220 instances of dismissal, 1,680 1-2 days' absence, and 7,818 days' attendance, at the five schools during the year.

GEORGE S. PHILBRICK,
Superintendent.

REPORT

of the

BOARD OF EDUCATION

For Union District.

The schools in this district have been under the same instructors the past year that they were at the time of our last report:

ELLEN F. GOODWIN, Grammar School,
LIZZIE A. CHASE, Primary School.

It is needless to make comments upon the character of the teachers or the quality and rank of the schools, further than to simply refer to former reports.

They have been, on the whole, quite as satisfactory to the Board this year as heretofore.

For two reasons: first, lack of funds, second, alarm on the part of parents on account of the prevalence of diptheria, the schools were closed suddenly, without any final examination, and shortened three weeks as compared with previous years.

We have on hand a supply of coal sufficient for another winter

TABLE OF STATISTICS.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

	1st Term.	*2d Term.*	*3d Term.*
Length of School in Weeks,	10	12	5
Whole Number of Scholars,	22	20	25
Average Attendance,	19.6	16.9	23.2
Number in Reading,	16	14	15
" Spelling,	22	20	25
" Writing,	22	20	25
" Arithmetic,	22	20	25
" Geography,	15	13	16
" Grammar,	22	20	25
" Composition,	22	20	25
" U. S. History,	8	6	4
" instances Tardiness,	38	49	47
" Dismissals not reported.			

PRIMARY SCHOOL.

	1st Term.	*2d Term.*	*3d Term.*
Length of School in Weeks,	10	12	5
Whole Number of Scholars,	53	58	50
Average Attendance,	42	48	45
Number in Reading,	53	58	50
" Spelling,	50	55	45
" Penmanship,	40	45	40
" Arithmetic,	40	49	40
" Geography,	15	15	20
" instances Tardiness,	21	38	15
" of Dismissals,	6	24	5

A. S. BALLANTYNE,
C. C. ROGERS,
C. R. GOULD,
} *Board of Education.*

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